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**PRESS RELEASE**

**CONVICTION AND DEATH SENTENCE AT BANGLADESH  
INTERNATIONAL CRIMES TRIBUNAL**

**Press Statement**

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State Department Spokesperson, Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC

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The United States notes the conviction and death sentence announced Monday by Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) following the trial in absentia of Abul Kalam Azad for crimes against humanity committed during Bangladesh's 1971 Liberation War. The United States supports bringing to justice those who commit such crimes. However, we believe that any such trials must be free, fair, and transparent, and in accordance with domestic standards and international standards Bangladesh has agreed to uphold through its ratification of international agreements, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

As Bangladesh addresses the legacy of atrocities committed during the Liberation War and as we await further verdicts by the Bangladesh International Crimes Tribunal, the United States urges the Government of Bangladesh to adhere to the due process standards that are part of its treaty obligations, and to fully respect the rule of law.

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